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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/009,774	03/20/2002	Jean-Pierre Glize	21673US2PCT	1573
22850	7590	02/22/2005	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			CRENSHAW, MARVIN P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2854	

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/009,774	GLIZE, JEAN-PIERRE	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Marvin P. Crenshaw	2854	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 12-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 12-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 March 2002 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
 If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ . |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 12, 13, 18 – 21, 23 and 29 - 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oshino et al. in view of Sakurai.

With respect to claims 12 and 23, Oshino et al. teaches a ticket printing device, comprising at least one print head means for driving a ticket across the at least one print head, the means for driving presenting a first face of the ticket to the at least one print head, and means for guiding a direction of travel to the ticket, wherein said means for driving includes a block applied against a second face of the ticket, the second face being opposite to the first face.

However, Oshino et al. doesn't teach a first roller configured to cause the ticket to move and a second roller configured to be rotated only by the ticket.

Sakurai teaches having a first a first roller (10) configured to cause the ticket to move and a second roller (23) configured to be rotated only by the ticket.

It would have been obvious to modify Oshino et al. to have a first roller configured to cause the ticket to move and a second roller configured to be rotated only by the ticket as taught by Sakurai to enable the split roller to be independently rotated

and prevent a frictional force from being generated at the part of direct contact of the thermal head.

With respect to claim 13 and 24, the first roller and the second roller of the proposed modified device of Oshino et al. are cylindrical in shape, co-axial, similar in radius and substantially juxtaposed.

With respect to claim 18 and 29, Oshino et al. teaches a device (Fig. 2) comprising means of supporting the at least one print head including a flexible plate (4) fixed on one hand to the at least one print head and on the other hand to a mounting integral (10) with the block together with a rigid plate (3) fixed to the at least one print head and equipped with an end bar (26) substantially parallel to the direction of travel and seated so as to rotate about an axis substantially parallel to the direction of travel in an aperture incorporated into the mounting such that said rigid plate is capable of preventing pitching motion of the at least one print head while at the same time allowing a rolling motion about said axis.

With respect to claim 19 and 30, Oshino et al. teaches a device further comprising means (31) of pushing the plate against the block, the at least one print head being in a position facing the block.

With respect to claim 20 and 31, to have a device wherein the pushing means includes an electro-magnetic actuated electrically as claimed is merely automating the manual activity of Oshino et al., which would be obvious for making the device more efficient.

With respect to claim 21 and 32, Oshino et al. doesn't teach a device wherein the thermal print head is capable of printing barcodes but it is inherent since printers can be used to print any desired graphic.

Claims 14 – 16, 22, 25 – 27 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oshino et al. in view of Sakurai, and further in view of Fujitsu.

Oshino et al. and Sakurai together teach all that is claimed, as discussed in the above rejection of claims 12, 13, 18 – 21, 23 and 29 - 32, except a device wherein the guidance means includes facing the first roller, at least one wall parallel to an edge of the ticket forming a tab capable of defining the direction of travel of the ticket while the block forms a chosen angle with said direction of travel, a device wherein the guidance means includes along the direction of travel an upstream tab and a downstream tab substantially juxtaposed and placed on either side of the first roller, including the device wherein the block forms in a direction from the powered roller towards the at least one print head, an angle between 89° and 90°, and a device wherein the ticket includes magnetic information and the device further comprises a magnetic recording head while the at least one print head is arranged to operate in conjunction with the magnetic recording station to print barcodes matching the magnetic information recorded on the ticket.

Fujitsu teaches a device wherein the guidance (Fig. 10, 48) means includes facing the first roller, at least one wall parallel to an edge of the ticket forming a tab capable of defining the direction of travel of the ticket while the block forms a chosen

angle with said direction of travel, a device wherein the guidance (Fig. 10, 48) means includes along the direction of travel an upstream tab (on one side of the roller) and a downstream tab (on the other side of the roller) substantially juxtaposed and placed on either side of the first roller and a device (Fig. 1) wherein the ticket includes magnetic information and the device further comprises a magnetic recording head (5) while the at least one print head is arranged to operate in conjunction with the magnetic recording station to print barcodes matching the magnetic information recorded on the ticket.

With respect to claim 14, 15, 25 and 26, it would have been obvious to modify Oshino et al. as modified by Sakurai to have a guidance means as taught by Fujitsu to guide and hold the ticket in its proper position as it is being printed on.

With respect to claim 22 and 33, it would have been obvious to modify the ticket device of Oshino et al. as modified by Sakurai to have a device wherein the ticket includes magnetic information and the device further comprises a magnetic recording head while the at least one print head is arranged to operate in conjunction with the magnetic recording station to print barcodes matching the magnetic information recorded on the ticket as taught by Fujitsu to read the information on the ticket then to print the information on the ticket other side.

With respect to claim 16 and 27, it would be obvious through a slight tolerance in a manufacturer's build that the block would be between 89° and 90°.

Claim 17 and 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oshino et al. in view of Sakurai, and further in view of Brooks et al.

Oshino et al. and Sakurai together teach all that is claimed, as discussed in the above rejection of claims 12, 13, 18 – 21, 23 and 29 - 32, except at least one print head includes a plurality of resistance heat elements capable of releasing heat to enable printing of the ticket and the device further comprising means to electrically test the plurality of resistance elements, one by one, said testing means utilizing an addressing module for the plurality of resistance elements.

Brooks et al. teaches at least one print head (11) includes a plurality of resistance heat elements capable of releasing heat to enable printing of the ticket and the device further comprising means (See col. 6, lines 7 – 66) to electrically test the plurality of resistance elements, one by one, said testing means (19) utilizing an addressing module for the plurality of resistance elements.

It would have been obvious to modify the ticket printing device of Oshino et al. as modified by Sakurai to have at least one print head includes a plurality of resistance heat elements capable of releasing heat to enable printing of the ticket and the device further comprising means to electrically test the plurality of resistance elements, one by one, said testing means utilizing an addressing module for the plurality of resistance elements as taught by Brooks et al. to ensure that ink is being properly extracted from the print head and to test the resistance elements to ensure that they are functioning correctly.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 12 - 33 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Specifically Oshino et al. teaches all

of the claimed matter of having a thermal printer. Sakurai has been added to teach the claimed matter of have a first roller to feed the medium and a second roller that is rotated by the medium.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marvin P. Crenshaw whose telephone number is (571) 272-2158. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 7:00 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


MPC
February 16, 2004


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